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Dated: 12/27/04 Signature: Melody Almberg
(Melody Almberg)

Docket No.: 337348046US
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Firlik et al.

Application No.: 10/606,202

Confirmation No.: 4373

Filed: June 24, 2003

Art Unit: 3762

For: **METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR
EFFECTUATING A LASTING CHANGE IN
A NEURAL-FUNCTION OF A PATIENT**

Examiner: R. D. Bradford

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits as far as is known to the undersigned (37 CFR 1.97(b)(3)).

Copies of the references on the PTO/SB/08 are not provided.

The references cited in the attached form PTO/SB/08 are not supplied because they were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in a prior application number

Application No.: 10/606,202

Docket No.: 337348046US

09/802,808, filed March 8, 2001 and relied upon in this application for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120.

Our check in the amount of \$225.00 covering the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(a)(2) is enclosed. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 50-0665, under Order No. 337348046US. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: Dec. 27, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/606,202
				Filing Date	June 24, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Andrew D. Firlik
				Art Unit	3762
				Examiner Name	R. D. Bradford
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	337348046US

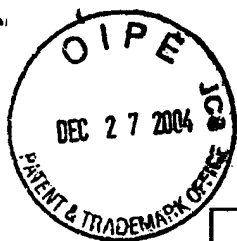
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		2003-0187490	10-02-2003	Bradford Gliner	
		2003-0149457	08-07-2003	Tcheng et al.	
		2002-0087201	07-04-2002	Andrew Firlik	
		4,431,000	12-14-1984	Butler et al.	
		5,054,906	10-08-1991	WILLIAM G. LYONS	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		WO-WO 03/043690	05-30-2003	Vertis Neuroscience, Inc.		
		WO-WO 03/082402	03-26-2003	Vertis Neuroscience, Inc.		
		EP-EP 0 998 958-A2	10-05-2000	Medtronic, Inc.		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.		
		BENABID, A.L. et al, "Chronic electrical stimulation of the ventralis intermedius nucleus of the thalamus as a treatment of movement disorders," J. Neurosurg., April 1997, 86(4); 737; http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov ; [accessed 11/18/2003]		
		International Search Report for PCT/US03/39077; May 2004; Applicant: Northstar Neuroscience, Inc. (3 pgs)		
		International Search Report for PCT/US03/03678; July 2003; Applicant: Northstar Neuroscience, Inc. (4 pgs)		
		International Search Report for PCT/US03/39078; May 2004; Applicant: Northstar Neuroscience, Inc. (5 pgs)		
		International Search Report for PCT/US02/31112; December 2002; Applicant: Vertis Neuroscience, Inc. (7 pgs)		
		International Search Report for PCT/US02/31127; July 2003; Applicant: Vertis Neuroscience, Inc. (3 pgs)		
		International Search Report for PCT/US02/31128; September 2002; Applicant: Vertis Neuroscience, Inc. (6 pgs)		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)

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				Art Unit	3762
				Examiner Name	R. D. Bradford
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	337348046US

		Written Opinion for PCT/US03/03678; December 2003; Applicant: Northstar Neuroscience, Inc. (4 pgs)	
		Written Opinion for PCT/US02/32695; June 2003; Applicant: Vertis Neuroscience, Inc. (2 pgs)	
		Written Opinion for PCT/US02/31127; May 2003; Applicant: Vertis Neuroscience, Inc. (2 pgs)	
		Written Opinion for PCT/US02/31112; August 2003; Applicant: Vertis Neuroscience, Inc. (5 pgs)	
		Written Opinion for PCT/US02/07077; July 2003; Applicant: Vertis Neuroscience, Inc. (4 pgs)	

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¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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